

Remarks

Claims 1-12 are pending. Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the at least one inlet port be "arranged to provide a swirling vortex motion to an ablation fluid." Support for the amendment can be found in the claims and the specification as a whole, and for example, claim 1 and paragraph [0069] as published January 6, 2005 (at page 6).

Claims 13-18 are new. Claim 13 includes means for providing a swirling vortex motion in the at least one ablation fluid flow path. Claims 14-18 are all dependent claims from claim 13. Support for the amendments can be found in the claims and the specification as a whole, and for example, claims 1, 3, 6, 10, 11, 12 and paragraph [0069] of the application as published.

No new matter is added by these amendments.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103

Claims 1, 3 and 6-9 stand rejected as anticipated by Brucker. Claims 1, 3 and 5-9 stand rejected as anticipated by Swartz. Claims 10-12 stand rejected as obvious over Swartz in view of Bednarek.

Applicants have amended claim 1 to clarify that the fluid motion within the manifold is a "swirling vortex" as noted by the Examiner (Office action at page 5). Neither Brucker nor Swartz teach or suggest a "swirling vortex" motion and therefore Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of all rejections.

Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance. Timely notification of allowability is requested.

Applicant requests a one month extension of time and have attached the requisite fee. No additional fees, requests for extension of time, other petitions, additional claim fees, or any other fees are believed to be necessary to enter and consider this paper. If, however, any extensions of time are required or any fees are due in order to enter or

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consider this paper or enter or consider any paper accompanying this paper, including fees for net addition of claims, Applicant hereby requests any extensions or petitions necessary and the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-1129 for any fees. If there is any variance between the fee submitted and any fee required, or if the payment or fee payment information has been misplaced or is somehow insufficient to provide payment, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. 50-1129.

Respectfully submitted,

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